

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BLANTY 00719 041324Z

54

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 AID-20 PC-10 CU-04

DRC-01 /113 W

----- 008432

R 041200Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7097

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BLANTYRE 719

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MI, OAU

SUBJ: MALAWI CREATES MINISTRY FOR OAU AFFAIRS

REF: BLANTYRE 436 (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. PRESIDENT BANDA ON MAY 31 ANNOUNCED
CREATION OF NEW MINISTRY FOR ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY
AFFAIRS, TO OPERATE DIRECTLY FROM PRESIDENT'S OWN OFFICE.
ON JUNE 1 HE NAMED AS MINISTER RICHARD BESTON CHADZANJA
NKHOMA, PREVIOUSLY MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO. END UNCLASSIFIED

2. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. THIS IS SIGNIFICANT AND PERHAPS
REVEALING MOVE ON PART OF PRESIDENT BANDA. THROUGH THE YEARS
BANDA CONSISTENTLY HAS BEEN CRITICAL OF OAU, ATTESTED MOST
RECENTLY IN MALAWI PARLIAMENT WHEN HE SCORED OAU'S ILLOGICALITY
IN NOT ACCEPTING WHITE SOUTH AFRICANS (REFTEL). HIGH-LEVEL
FOCUS ON OAU AFFAIRS HAS BEEN CONSPICUOUS BY ITS ABSENCE
THROUGHOUT MOST OF MALAWI'S INDEPENDENCE. THAT BANDA NOW HAS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BLANTY 00719 041324Z

CHOSEN TO CREATE SUCH FOCUS PROBABLY IS INDICATIVE OF HIS OWN

CURRENT UNCERTAINTIES ABOUT PACE AND DIRECTION OF EVENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. IT IS ESPECIALLY INTERESTING THAT THIS STEP COMES AT A TIME WHEN BANDA'S ABILITY TO PLAY INFLUENTIAL ROLE IN MOZAMBIQUAN DEVELOPMENTS HAS BEEN CURTAILED BY APPARENT INTERRUPTION IN "JARDIM CONNECTION."

3. APPOINTMENT OF CHIDZANJA IS CURIOUS. CHIDZANJA IS TOUGH OLD PARTY HACK WHO, WHILE OF PROVEN LOYALTY TO PRESIDENT, HAS BEEN IN AND OUT OF TROUBLE (AND OFFICE) THROUGH THE YEARS. HE IS FAR FROM MOST IMPRESSIVE REPRESENTATIVE MALAWI COULD PRODUCE, BUT BANDA DOUBTLESS FEELS HE CAN RELY ON HIM IN OAU CONTACTS STAUNCHLY TO DEFEND BANDA LINE. UNIMPRESSIVE CHARACTER OF NEW MINISTER AND FACT MINISTRY WILL OPERATE FROM PRESIDENT'S OFFICE UNDERSCORE BANDA'S DETERMINATION TO KEEP OAU INITIATIVES (IF ANY) SQUARELY UNDER HIS OWN THUMB.

4. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICERS HAVE ADVISED THEY WERE TAKEN COMPLETELY UNAWARE BY PRESIDENT'S MOVE. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY HAS BEEN IN GENERAL DISREPUTE WITH DIP CORPS RECENTLY FOR INEFFICIENCY AND LACK OF AUTHORITY. LATEST DEVELOPMENT DOES NOTHING TO RESTORE ITS STATUS.

FARBER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, REORGANIZATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BLANTY00719
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740141-0775
From: BLANTYRE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740678/aaaacplu.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BLANTYRE 436 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MALAWI CREATES MINISTRY FOR OAU AFFAIRS
TAGS: PFOR, MI, OAU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005